in the area of mainstreaming Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy *inter-alia* covering the areas of education, research, clinical practice, medicinal plants and drug standardisation. Recommendations which are received from time to time are examined and implemented where feasible.

Mercy killing of people

3061. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the views of Government in regard to mercy killing of the terminally ill people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): In India, mercy killing of terminally ill people is not permitted yet, even if on life support stage.

Patenting of Argapyrin

†3062. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have patented Agrapyrin, the Ayurvedic medicine, which is prepared with garlic and onion;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

NOCs to Medical and Dental Colleges

3063. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) which States have given No Objection Certificates to various institutions to start Medical and Dental Colleges in the country from 2001 onwards;

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.